

### Neater Ties Are Latest

The trend in neckwear toward more restrained patterns becomes more pronounced for spring, reflecting the renewed interest in patterned fabrics for men's suits and shirts. Many light ground colors will be shown in new neckwear and there will be more interest in whites and silvers. Repp and foulards will remain favorites with Ivy League partisans. Some bolder patterns will be available to com-

plement some of the new dark suits. Bow ties will enjoy their usual warm weather revival. The narrow shape will continue to lead the field with little or no indication of any widening. Fabric interest will be in typical summer silks and cottons, and there should be more interest in blends of silk and cotton.



**SMALL FASHIONS . . .** Full skirts and floral print give a pretty, lady-like spring air to sisters' dresses. Contrast piping, button-tab details add the fashionable high-waisted look. The fabric is washable, crease-resistant blend of rayon and cotton.

### Flower, Fruit Trees Show Up in Spring Color Garden

From vivid peony pinks to delicate lilacs, spring fashion is a garden of color. Purples are blooming in profusion—not only lilac, but violet, iris, lavender, wisteria, mauve. New-leaf greens, geranium, larkspur, tiger lily, blues and pinks with a mauvy cast all add to fashion's flower-like look. There are fruits in the fashion garden, too—luscious shades of melon, orange, peach, pear, lemon, apricot and lime ready for the picking. And, as in every garden, there are the hardy perennials—navy and black, both important this spring, both branching out in an important variety of ways. Lighter-than-traditional navies are news, and so is navy that has a rich, almost royal-

## Men Will Have Trimmer Styles

Trim styling, heightened by a "silky" look, and a return of interest in patterned fabrics, will bring American men out into the Spring sun this year looking smarter than ever, according to the American Institute of Men's and Boys' Wear. The continued slimming down of suit models casts and influence over all other parts of the male Spring wardrobe, showing up in still narrower brims in new hats and Continental styling of shoes. Trim Look Spreading from coast to coast and from border to border, the trim look is even having an effect on California styling, which shows signs of adopting a somewhat more natural silhouette while still featuring comparatively broad shoulders. Major color preferences in Spring suits will be medium shades of gray and blue. Navy blue is due for a big comeback. Brown and tan hues may be expected to take a back seat for a while. Spring will find three-button single breasted models coming into their own to rival the popularity of the two-button single-breasted suit. Ivy League Styling Wider acceptance of Ivy League styling and three-button models has activated the interest of true Ivy fans in such features as seven-inch jacket side vents and welted or slightly raised seams, in their search for individuality. This search for something slightly different will find four-button single-breasted models and a six-button treatment—three on each side—of the double breasted suit. The majority of double-breasted models—which will amount to only a minor factor in the Spring picture—will have slimmer lines, a smaller overlap and a higher gorge. Sports clothes will follow the general characteristics of suit styling this Spring, but some jackets will feature such novelty effects as side vests, collar tabs, sleeve cuffs and ticket pockets. Ivy League slacks—slimmed trouser legs, without pleats and with buckled strap backs—find even greater popularity. Even pleated slacks will be cut along narrower lines. Fabrics for Spring The fabric picture this Spring finds silk and silk blends in a position of great importance. Some fabrics, though containing not a silken thread, have been given the appearance of silk. But all silk and blends of silk and other fibers will be shown in effects ranging from brilliant, satin-

### Fabrics Give Feminine Air

Softness of line and texture are the keynote of spring '57 hats. Even the most symmetrically balanced, hats often have a flattering lift above the brow, a softly cushioned edge or an unrolled brim. The toque shape, with its prominent crown, is prettily rounded, tapered, dimpled or draped. The profile hat, with a dashing tilt of crown or a deep side dip of brim recalls the glamorous styles of the 30's. Look Feminine Fabrics contribute a feminine, milliner-made look. Chiffon, georgette, organdy and "souffle" straw (a silky, sheer, ribby braid) are intricately tucked, pleated, puffed and draped to make both small and larger hats look light and lovely as clouds. Fine felts, supple as fabric, vie with real and artificial silks. Straws have a spongy softness and transparency in designs that interweave flossy souffle with yarn, ribbon, beads and braids. Transparent hairbraids combined with straw has a frothy depth, while basketweave straws are often latticed with light. Balibuntals and linen-straws are intricately tucked and shirred, and even fine-sewn straw has a delicate three-dimensional air. Add to Flattery Spring flowers of fine silk and sheers further the light and feminine look; and the complexion-smoothing softness of lace veiling often adds the finishing touch to flattering spring hats. Trimmings are intricate, yet inconspicuous. Velvet ribbon, novelty ribbons striped with straw or satin, tiny tufts of feathers, touches of embroidery and jeweled motifs appear in matching or contrasting hues. Hat colors are carefully coordinated with spring fashions. FAVORED FASHION Juniors favor Tyrolean separates in coordinated colors.

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### Pleats, Drapes To Round Out Spring Dresses

Gently does it for dresses this spring. The slim sheath silhouette is still a favorite, but now it is softer and rounder with a new look of ease in the waist-through-midriff area. One of the biggest influences on this look is the "Dutch Boy" or peg-top skirt. Most often achieved by darts or tucks at the waist, it is sometimes carried through to full scale pleats. Draping offers another highly favored way to ease the slim skirt. Skirts are draped to side or back, eased with harem hemlines or panels draped with swags or modified versions of the hobble hemline treatment. For more tailored dresses, pleats are preferred to drapery. There are many variations including pegged pleats streigh-up-and-down pleats released pleats in sections and wraparounds. There are also many pretty full-skirted styles, such as dresses with darts, pleating and back fullness. Many empire-mood dresses have self-bands or pleated cummerbunds that circle the waist and lower part of the midriff. Often, a high waist line is suggested by tabs or bows. Bloused-top dresses, with belts at the normal waistline, and shirtwaist styles both contribute to the increasing importance of belts in fashion.

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